

CARR-1259

Mid-19th Century

Buttercup Cottage

Public

Springfield Hospital Center

Sykesville

This two and a half story, frame building was located southwest of the Warfield group. Original to the Springfield Farm, Buttercup Cottage received the first hospital patients in 1896. The vernacular dwelling displayed a gabled roof with several cross gables supported by a rubblestone foundation.

Buttercup Cottage was destroyed at least thirty-five years ago.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Buttercup Cottage Site

and/or common

2. Location Springfield Hospital Center

street & number _____ not for publication

city, town Sykesville _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 6

state Maryland _____ county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Hospital

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number 201 West Preston Street telephone no.: 301-225-6816

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex, Rm G-8 liber

street & number 55 North Court Street folio

city, town Sykesville state Maryland 21157

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date _____ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local ☐

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1259

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Buttercup Cottage was one of the existing structures on the Springfield Farm when the Board of Managers acquired the land for the second state hospital for the insane. The three story dwelling stood south of "G" Cottage of the Warfield group. The residence housed male epileptics during the first years of the hospital's existence.

The following description was developed from a historic photograph of the building. The frame dwelling stood on a rubblestone foundation. The vernacular style of the building was characterized by a steeply-pitched gable roof with several cross gables. The gabled ends were adorned by bargeboard reminiscent of the Stick style of architecture. The dominant portion of the building consisted of two rectangular sections of equal portions: four bays wide and two bays deep. The fenestration pattern appeared very consistent. All the windows displayed wooden shutters flanking a 2/2 sash. The size of the windows varied between the floors. Three brick chimneys protruded through the shingled roof. The interior wall chimneys lined the gabled ends of the building. The corbeled rim formed a rounded arch which decorated the chimney tops.

The date of the demolition is unclear but Buttercup Cottage has not stood on the campus for at least thirty-five years.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1259

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Unknown	Builder/Architect	Unknown
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D
and/or			
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state	<input type="checkbox"/> local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Buttercup Cottage played a significant role in the history of Springfield State Hospital. The Board of Managers took possession of the farm in April of 1896. Shortly thereafter, the first male patients were transferred to the new hospital. Buttercup Cottage received these patients as the first of many to pass through the hospital. The dwelling accommodated 25 patients while the construction of the first quadrangle of buildings was undertaken. Once the Men's quadrangle was completed, the patients in Buttercup Cottage were moved into the brick buildings while the Cottage was prepared to receive male epileptics. Springfield continued to use Buttercup Cottage as dormitory space for epileptics.

Housing the first patients in Buttercup Cottage influenced a second aspect of the history of the hospital. Dr. George Rohe, the first superintendent, strongly advocated the open door system which denounced the use of physical restraints. This philosophy applied to the patients as well as their housing. So when the first patients occupied the frame cottage, Dr. Rohe did not add window bars or locks. This method proved to be so successful that the original hospital complex was constructed and operated on the open door policy.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1259

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren L. Bowlin

organization Office of Planning, DHMH

date 6/86

street & number 201 West Preston Street

telephone 301-225-6816

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland 21201

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
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